

# OPEN AND SHUT?

Thursday, January 05, 2006

## Current Science Group becomes Science Navigation Group

Current Science Group — the parent company of open access publisher [BioMed Central](#) — has changed its name to [Science Navigation Group](#), effective from 1st January 2006.

The name change comes in the wake of the [recent sale](#) of [Current Medicine Group](#) to [Springer Science+Business Media](#), a transaction that saw Springer also acquire the name Current Science.

Explains Science Navigation Group's Grace Baynes: "One of the companies sold to Springer was called Current Science Inc. Since we were planning to re-brand the Current Science Group we did not require Springer to change the name of the company they acquired." She adds "The new name Science Navigation Group more accurately reflects the mix of businesses we are now involved in."

As the company's [press release](#) explains, the independent companies that make up the Group have "increasingly moved into navigation, and Science Navigation Group reflects that the Group's businesses are both science and navigation focused."

In addition to BioMed Central (which currently publishes 140 open access journals) other companies in the Science Navigation Group include the life sciences journal [The Scientist](#); [Biology Reports](#), which publishes a literature evaluation service called Faculty of 1000 Biology; [Medicine Reports](#), which publishes an online literature evaluation service called Faculty of 1000 Medicine; and Current BioData, which creates scientific databases for the pharmaceutical research community.

Indeed, the list of businesses in Science Navigation Group provides an interesting insight into where [Vitek Tracz](#), who owns the companies, sees future investment opportunities in the science and technology publishing and information services space.

There are, for instance, also companies like [Telmap](#), a technology and software provider in the mobile mapping arena, and [Mapa Internet](#), a supplier of location-based services, and navigation and telematic applications for the web and mobile platforms; and there are companies like [UK DataPoint](#), a UK events database company, and [Mapa Mapping and Publishing](#), a publisher of maps, atlases, and travel, food and leisure guides for Israel.

Finally, there is [Peoples Archive](#), an online collection of autobiographical videos of great thinkers and creators.

Science Navigation Group has its head office in London (UK), with additional offices in Philadelphia, Chicago, Geneva, Amsterdam, Oslo and Tel Aviv.

Posted by Richard Poynder at [13:53](#)



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(A print version of this eBook is available here ) Earlier this year I was invited to discuss with Georgia Institute of Technology libraria...



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Bauwens , the creator of The Foundation for P2P



### Tweets by @RickyPo

**Richard Poynder**  
@RickyPo

I sometimes think that the most practical and innovative thing that a traditional scholarly publisher could do today is to recruit Alexandra Elbakyan and monetise her skills.

2h

**Richard Poynder**  
@RickyPo

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**Council OA Big**  
**Deal** Open  
**Notebook Science**  
**Elsevier** Gates  
**Foundation OA in**  
**South Africa OA in**  
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**Big Deal** Finch  
**Report** Jeffrey Beall  
**ALPSP OA**  
**Mandates PLOS**  
**Peer Review**  
 Springer **BioMed**  
**Central Free**  
**Software Digital**  
**Preservation** Dove  
**Medical OA in Russia**  
**Radical OA Almost OA**  
 HEFCE **Frontiers**

Alternatives , explained why he believes the var...



**PLOS CEO**  
 Alison Mudditt  
 discusses new  
 OA agreement  
 with the  
 University of

California

The Public Library of Science  
 ( PLOS ) and the University of  
 California ( UC ) have today  
 announced a two-year  
 agreement designed to  
 make...



**The Open**  
**Access**  
**Interviews:**  
**Publisher MDPI**  
 Headquartered  
 in Basel,

Switzerland, the  
 Multidisciplinary Digital  
 Publishing Institute, or more  
 usually MDPI , is an open  
 access publisher...



The OA  
 Interviews:  
 Taylor &  
 Francis'  
 Deborah Kahn  
 discusses Dove

Medical Press

Please note the postscript to  
 this interview here The open-  
 access publisher Dove  
 Medical Press has a  
 controversial past and I have  
 writ...



The Open  
 Access  
 Interviews:  
 OMICS  
 Publishing  
 Group's Srinu

Babu Gedela

\*\*\*Update: On August 26th  
 2016, the US government  
 (Federal Trade Commission)  
 announced that it has charged  
 OMICS with making false  
 claims, ...



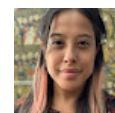
Copyright: the  
 immovable  
 barrier that  
 open access  
 advocates  
 underestimated

In calling for research papers  
 to be made freely available  
 open access advocates  
 promised that doing so would  
 lead to a simpler, less cos...



Robin Osborne  
 on the state of  
 Open Access:  
 Where are we,  
 what still needs  
 to be done?

One of a series exploring the  
 current state of Open Access  
 ( OA ), the Q&A below is with  
 Robin Osborne , Professor of  
 Ancient History a...



Community  
 Action  
 Publishing:  
 Broadening the  
 Pool

We are today  
 seeing growing dissatisfaction  
 with the pay-to-publish model  
 for open access. As this  
 requires authors (or their  
 funders or ins...



Open Access:  
What should  
the priorities be  
today?

This year marks  
the 15 th  
anniversary of the Budapest  
Open Access Initiative  
(BOAI), the meeting that led  
to the launch of the open  
acce...

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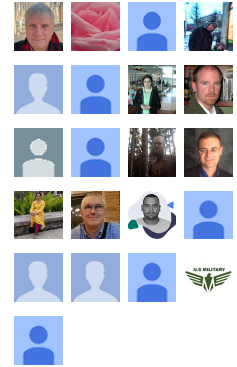
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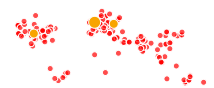
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